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UNIVERSITY HOSPITAL,

Ninth St. south of Locust,

PHILADELPHIA.

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CONSTITUTION, BY LAWS

AND

CIRCULAR

TO THE

PUBLIC.

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CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS
OF THE
UNIVERSITY HOSPITAL.

CONSTITUTION.

ARTICLE I.

The Hospital shall consist of the usual Hospital facilities with beds and accomodations for all clases of patients, together with an Out-Door Department, which will always be auxiliary to the General Hospital.

ARTICLE II.

The Trustees of the Philadelphia University of Medicine and Surgery shall constitute the Officers of the University Hospital.

ARTICLE III.

The Hospital Corps shall consist of a Chief Physician and Surgeon, a House Physician and Surgeon, a Ward Master for each Ward, and Stewards.

ARTICLE IV.

The Chief Physician and Surgeon shall be appointed by the Board of Trustees, and the remainder of the Officers by the Chief Physician and Surgeon upon the recommendation of the students of the Philadelphia University of Medicine and Surgery.

ARTICLE V.

The Chief Physician and Surgeon shall hold their Office until superseded by the action of the Board of Trustees, and the other Officers for two months, unless removed sooner for inability or misbehavior.

ARTICLE VI.

The Trustees in connection with the Chief Physician and Surgeon may appoint an In-Door and Out-Door Committee, whose business it shall be to collect funds, supply the Hospital with stores, visit the sick, and perform such other benevolent acts as will benefit the afflicted and promote the interest and usefulness of the Hospital.

ARTICLE VII.

Clergyman of all denominations are constituted a Visiting Committee to administer to the spiritual necessities of the patients; also to collect funds and recommend patients for admission.

ARTICLE VIII.

The Officers may issue Certificates of Fifty Dollars and One Hundred Dollars. The Fifty Dollar Certificate entitles the holder, either himself or by representation to Twelve Months Treatment in the Hospital, free from all expense, except Board and Washing; and for all Out-Door Patients to Twelve Months Treatment including for husband, wife and children, free of charge, excepting medicines. The One Hundred Dollar Certificate entitles the holder to Hospital privileges for Two Years, or Three Years Out-Door Treatment on the same conditions as those holding the Fifty Dollar Certificates. All Out-Door Patients are under the charge of the Out-Door Physician and Surgeon or their Assistants.

ARTICLE IX.

Any person paying into the Treasury of the Institution Twenty-Five Cents per week or at that rate, shall in case of accident or sickness be entitled to Board and Treatment in the Hospital free of charge, provided he or she has belonged to the Hospital Association six months. If any person so depositing each week does not require the Treatment, he or she may at any time when the amount reaches Fifty Dollars convert it into a Certificate, or withdraw the same, less five per cent, providing he or she has had no Treatment from either branch of the Hospital.

ARTICLE X.

To constitute Membership of the University Hospital Corps, the Students of the University shall be required to pay One Dollar Annually, and all other persons Three Dollars per annum. Certificates of Life-Membership will be granted for Twenty-Five Dollars; these amounts to be paid into the Treasury of the Philadelphia University for Hospital purposes.

BY-LAWS

ARTICLE I.

The duty of the Chief Physician and Surgeon shall be that of giving directions as to the mananagement of all cases in the Hospital, and all Out-Door cases.

ARTICLE II.

The Faculty of the Philadelphia University of Medicine and Surgery, and such other Physicians as the Chief Physician and Surgeon may appoint, shall constitute a corps of Consulting Physicians and Surgeons.

ARTICLE III.

It shall be the duty of the House Physicians and Surgeons and the Out-Door Physicians and Surgeons to keep an exact Record of the History, Disease and Treatment of each case coming under their charge, and report the same to the Chief Physician and Surgeon as often as required. They shall also give receipts for all Hospital property and stores in their charge, and be held personally responsible for the same.

ARTICLE IV.

It shall be the duty of the Ward-Master and Hospital Steward to nurse and care for the sick, and perform such other duties as may be assigned them by the House Physician and Surgeon.

ARTICLE V.

The Out-Door Physician and Surgeon may select from among the Advanced Students of the Philadelphia University, such persons as they desire to assist them in the attendance upon Out-Door patients; all such assistants are, however, under the direction of the Out-Door Physician and Surgeon.

ARTICLE VI.

The Officers, Hospital Staff and Members shall conjointly hold a Meeting on the First Monday in each Month, or as often as the Officers may direct for the transaction of business.

ARTICLE VII.

The Constitution and By-Laws may be amended at any regular Meeting by a two-thirds vote.

UNIVERSITY HOSPITAL.

Organization and Management.

AN APPEAL TO THE PUBLIC.

On the evening of January 6th, 1870, at the close of a public lecture, delivered at the Philadelphia University of Medicine and Surgery, by Prof. Wm. Paine, Dean of the Faculty, measures were taken to organize and put into immediate operation, a General Charity Hospital.

Prof. Paine addressed the audience on the subject, and said that the question of extending aid to the sick and destitute among us was a question that appealed to the hearts and sympathies of all who have anything to bestow in charity. He stated that there was an urgent necessity for increased hospital privileges in this city; that there were thousands here, deserving and worthy of assistance, who were too poor to pay for medical attendance, or purchase medicine, when sick, and that in many a home, even when medicine was furnished gratis, proper nourishment was wanting to stay the hand of disease and death; while the majority of the hospitals received but a few free patients, and a multitude of applications for admission to the Almshouse were refused because it was full.

For a long time, he said, medical treatment and medicines had been furnished at the clinics of the University, and at other times, gratuitously, to all who applied and were unable to pay; and that a certain number of beds had been prepared, and several free patients were already enjoying such comforts and attention as could be afforded. But the demands had become so great that he believed were the facts fully known, hundreds of philanthropic individuals in the community would gladly embrace the opportunity to come forward and share the burden in so worthy a cause.

He stated that statistics would show that Philadelphia, the largest city in extent of territory on the continent, and second only in population,—a city of wealth and refinement, and filled with many charitable institutions—noted for the liberality of her citizens in almost every good cause, actually ranked third or fourth in regard to hospital facilities; that New York has far more; that Chicago, Boston and several other cities stand relatively above us in this respect.

The speaker was followed by Rev. W. J. P. Ingraham, Prof. Maxson, Dr. Gleason and others, who heartily seconded the movement and discussed the importance and necessity of the good work which they hoped would be at once inaugurated. A call was made for volunteers from the audience to form a committee and proceed to organize an association. A number of ladies and gentlemen volunteered their services, and on the following Monday, held their first meeting, and adopted the

CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS

which appear in the first pages of this pamphlet. The organization was thus perfected. The subscribing members paid the required fees and some added to the same liberal donations. On the 13th of Jan., after a lecture given at the University Hall, a collection was taken up, and it was announced that the Hospital was in readiness to receive patients.

At a subsequent meeting of the Managing Committee, it was resolved to appeal to the public for aid; and this circular has been prepared to explain to the charitable the objects of the association, and the work it proposes to accomplish.

A nobler object of charity never appealed to the generous. The aim of the association is purely philanthropic,—to furnish, in cases of destitution, the sick and suffering in our community, without money and without price, food, medicine and attendance in the hour of need. There are thousands in this great city, enjoying the comforts and luxuries of life, who do not forget that misfortunes often befall the most industrious and deserving, and that sickness overtakes them in their struggles and distress, which the timely assistance of the good Samaritan may relieve, restoring them to health and prosperity. Many who have never felt the pangs of poverty and want,—many, not rich, but with a competency, have enough and to spare, to contribute something to a cause like this. The poor even who while strong in health are able to support themselves and their families, can by small contributions weekly, secure, when prostrated by sickness, the advantages of the Hospital, not as a charity, but as a right. For all, then, it opens the way to do good. Such an association cannot fail to receive encouragement everywhere. That it will do so is foreshadowed by the auspicious beginning in a humble way, and by assurances from numerous individuals interested in its success that it shall not want at least a liberal support.

The management of the Hospital is under no sectarian influence or control. It acknowledges no creed but the creed of humanity. Its beneficence is confined to no class, religion or nationality. It is enough for the managers to know that a fellow-mortal has fallen by the wayside, and his wounds need to be bound up and healed, to send him on his way rejoicing, to bless his benefactors. It is not in any sense of the word a speculation. Payment will be expected of those who are able to pay, but every dollar received from this source, or any other, will be faithfully devoted to cases of real charity. Constant appeals to the University prove conclusively that such cases are numerous enough for almost unlimited benevolence. In the past year medicines alone have been furnished to the poor to the amount of about three thousand dollars. The institution is comparatively young, without endowments, and is unable to meet these pressing and increasing demands. For practical benevolence to the extent of its means and ability, it justly claims the co-operation of all who are willing to contribute to lighten the burden.

MUTUAL BENEFICIARY.

The attention of persons in moderate circumstances is especially invited to the co-operative features of the association. By Art. IX of the Constitution it will be seen that the payment by any one of Twenty-five cents weekly, or at that rate for six months, entitles him, or her in case of accident or sickness, to free medical attendance and board in the Hospital. So far the association is a Mutual Benefit Society. This is certainly a useful and praiseworthy, as well as novel feature, which it is hoped will meet with a cordial endorsement at the hands of the class most deeply interested in providing against the possible contingencies of sickness and want, while at the same time adding their mite for the immediate relief of their afflicted fellow men. Operatives, working men and working women in shops and factories and indeed individuals in almost every walk of life, will find both pleasure and profit in thus contributing a small sum from their current earnings to a good and worthy object.

SAVING FUND SOCIETY.

When the amount paid in this manner by any person reaches Fifty Dollars, it can be converted into a Certificate, or withdrawn less five per cent., in case the

contributor has had no treatment from either branch of the Hospital. This provision enables poor people to secure medical attention and medicines for their families at a merely nominal expense. They can also secure admission into the Hospital, with the privilege, if they have no sickness, of withdrawing their funds at the expiration of four years, thus reaping the advantages of a Saving Fund, and Health Insurance Company.

MEMBERSHIP.

Any person, male or female, may become a member of the association by paying the sum of Three Dollars and signing the Constitution and By-Laws.

Fifty and One Hundred Dollar Certificates entitle the holders to services and treatment according to Art. VIII of the Constitution, to which reference is made for the particulars.

CONCLUSION.

An Association which thus opens the door as it were to the whole community, and invites their participation in its management, deserves and it is believed will receive, an unequivocal and generous response to its appeal to the public. Should this appeal prove as successful as it ought, in view of the necessity that inspires it, and commensurate with the work designed to be accomplished, the effort may pave the way to the establishment of an institution which in extent and usefulness shall rival the noblest charities in the land. The pledge of an acre of land within the city limits as a site for a Hospital Building, and of a sum of fifteen thousand dollars has already been made. With further liberal contributions, immediate steps will be taken to erect a first class building, with all the necessary conveniences and accommodations. Therefore, let your good-will to men; that charity which is not blind, but discriminating, lead you in mercy and kindness to **GIVE** Give something, if but little. Give according to the means with which God has blessed you. Give though you are poor, in justification, if need be, of the saying, "If it were not for the poor, the poor would perish." Though churches and schools, missionary societies and a thousand other objects claim your aid, what nobler charity is there than that which sheds its cheering rays over the lowly couch of the suffering and dying,— that provides the services of the good Samaritan when the Priest and the Levite (fit representatives of a thoughtless and unfeeling world) pass by on the other side.

☞ All members of the association provided with a subscription book, attested by the seal of the University, with the signatures of Jos. S. FISHER, *Prest.*, and W. J. P. INGRAHAM, *Sec'y.*, are authorized to solicit and receive donations of money, books, clothing and stores for the exclusive benefit of the Hospital.